MARVEL
THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE
MARVEL UNIVERSE
DAREDEVIL
2004

writers
JEFF CHRISTIANSEN, RONALD BYRD, MICHAEL HOSKIN

cover artists
SALVADOR LARROCA & CHRIS SOTOMAYOR

art reconstruction
POND SCUM
colors
VICTOR GONZALEZ & CHRIS SOTOMAYOR

creative director
TOM MARVELLI
designer
MEGHAN KERNS

editor
JEFF YOUNGQUIST
assistant managing editor
MARK D. BEAZLEY
assistant editor
JENNIFER GRÜNWALD

editor in chief
JOE QUESADA
publisher
DAN BUCKLEY

Special thanks: Anthony Flamini, Al Sjoerdsma, the guys at the Appendix www.marvunapp.com, Tom Brevoort and Mike Marts

OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE: DAREDEVIL 2004. First printing 2004. Published by MARVEL COMICS, a division of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 10 East 40th Street, New York, NY 10016. Copyright © 2004 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. $3.99 per copy in the U.S. and $5.75 in Canada (GST #R127032852); Canadian Agreement #0998511. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in Canada. ALLEN LIPSON, Chief Executive Officer; AVI ARAD, Chief Creative Officer; GUI KARYO, President of Publishing and CIO; DAVID BOGART, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Russell Brown, Executive Vice President, Consumer Products, Promotions and Media Sales at rbrown@marvel.com or 212-576-8561.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE
MARVEL UNIVERSE
DAREDEVIL
2004

BLACK WIDOW

REAL NAME: Natalia "Natasha" Alianovna Romanova
KNOWN ALIASES: Natasha Romanoff, Nancy Rushman, Laura Matthers, Oktober, Tsarina, Natalia Shostakova
IDENTITY: Publicly known
OCCUPATION: Adventurer, intelligence operative, former ballerina
CITIZENSHIP: Former citizen of the U.S.S.R., resident in United States of America under extended visa authorized by S.H.I.E.L.D.
PLACE OF BIRTH: Stalingrad, former U.S.S.R.
MARITAL STATUS: Widowed

KNOWN RELATIVES: Unnamed parents (presumed deceased); Alexi Shostakov (Red Guardian, husband, deceased); Vindiktor (alleged brother, deceased)
GROUP AFFILIATION: Avengers, S.H.I.E.L.D.; former member of the "Marvel Knights," Queen's Vengeance, Champions of Los Angeles, Lady Liberators, and K.G.B.; former partner of Daredevil
EDUCATION: College graduate
FIRST APPEARANCE: Tales of Suspense Vol. 1 #52 (1964)

HISTORY: Natalia Romanova, known to most as Natasha Romanoff, is rumored to be a relative of the Romanoffs, the last ruling czars of Russia, but nothing else is known of her family. During World War II, a Nazi assault upon Stalingrad set the building she was in on fire. A woman, possibly her mother, threw her into the arms of a Russian soldier named Ivan Petrovich before being consumed by the flames.

Ivan brought Natasha under his protection and soon had to defend her from her many enemies. In 1941, Natasha was sought by the Nazi Baron Strucker, who presented her to the Hand to become their master assassin. She was saved from Strucker and the Hand by Ivan, the American super hero Captain America, and the Canadian adventurer Logan.

Under Ivan's care, Natasha grew to pursue her goal of becoming a ballet dancer and studied under Oksana Bolishinko, a famous Bolshoi instructor. She fell in love with a Soviet test pilot named Alexi Shostakov but was grief-stricken when he apparently died testing an experimental rocket. Natasha decided that she would honor Alexi's memory by becoming an intelligence operative, not realizing that this was what the K.G.B. had hoped would happen when they informed her of Alexi's death. She was instructed by the K.G.B. in their infamous Red Room Academy and under their training, she became their most skilled operative, a superb fighter and information-gatherer. The K.G.B. gave her the code name of "Black Widow," and quickly sent her into the field.

When Logan resurfaced in America, now bereft of his memory, Natasha set out as the Black Widow to save him from a team of Hydra assassins. She soon encountered Logan again when he, Ben Grimm, and Carol Danvers stole the Red Storm Project from Russia. Natasha pursued them but was ordered off by her superiors.

The Black Widow's first encounter with Iron Man came when she was directed to slay Anton Vanko, the creator of the Soviet Crimson Dynamo armor, who had defected to America. Natasha attempted to distract Tony Stark while her partner Boris Turgenov used the Crimson Dynamo to destroy Stark's plants. Turgenov and Vanko wound up perishing in battle, and Natasha remained in America to find some way of regaining the K.G.B.'s favor.

Since Tony Stark was still unaware that she was a K.G.B. operative, she continued to romance him so that she could steal a new anti-gravity device he had created. She managed to use the device to commit various acts of sabotage, even lifting entire buildings into the air, but Iron Man nullified the device and she barely escaped capture, now unable to trick Stark into lowering his guard.

By luck, Natasha happened upon the novice costumed crime fighter Hawkeye, who had been mistaken for a criminal by the police. Hawkeye was so taken with Natasha that she was able to entice him into an attempt at stealing plans from Tony Stark. Hawkeye fought Iron Man while Natasha watched from a distance, but when Iron Man deflected one of Hawkeye's explosive arrows, the force of the impact struck Natasha down, knocking her unconscious. Hawkeye fled the scene to help Natasha recover.

Art by Gabriele Dell'Otto

After Natasha recovered, her superiors instructed her to avoid Stark Industries for a time and directed her instead to target Williams Innovations. She duped Hawkeye into assaulting that firm, but Spider-Man intervened and Hawkeye turned back as he had begun to suspect his lover's true motivations. Natasha later sent Hawkeye out on a second attempt to steal Stark's plans. However, while Hawkeye was gone, she was kidnapped by the K.G.B. and returned to Russia. The K.G.B. designed a new costume for her and equipped her with her "widow's bite" and "widow's line." With these new weapons Natasha joined Hawkeye in battle against Iron Man in an attempt to destroy him, but when Iron Man shocked Natasha with an electrical blast Hawkeye disobeyed her orders to save her life once again. The K.G.B. then returned and stole Natasha away from Hawkeye.

This time the K.G.B. brainwashed Natasha to ensure her loyalty to the state; in her next mission, she found herself pitted against Hawkeye, who had become a member of the Avengers. Her love for Hawkeye allowed her to resist the brainwashing, and she finally turned against the K.G.B. She became an ally of the Avengers for awhile, aiding them against the Sons of the Serpent. She also proved instrumental in defeating the alien Ultroids who were certain the Avengers would not kill their leader Ixar because of their oath against killing, but Natasha forced Ixar to surrender, reasoning that as she was not an Avenger, she was not bound by their oaths.

On an assignment for S.H.I.E.L.D., Natasha discovered that Alexi Shostakov was still alive, and had been transformed by the K.G.B. into the costumed hero, the Red Guardian. She and the Avengers opposed the Red Guardian and his masters, and Alexi died in the battle. For a while Natasha abandoned her identity as the Black Widow, just as the Avengers were about to make her an official member.

Natasha finally decided to resume the Black Widow identity, but soon broke off her relationship with Hawkeye so that she could pursue a solo career. She adopted a new all-black uniform and became a vigilante, battling street gangs and organized crime in New York. Ivan had come to America by then, and he served as her chauffeur and confidant. Her new methods of operation brought her into contact with Daredevil, and she soon developed both a professional and personal relationship with him, battling side by side as they fell in love.

Natasha was less taken with Matt's law partner Foggy Nelson, who was manipulated by the villain Mr. Kline into prosecuting her for the murder of the Scorpion (it was actually a robot duplicate of the Scorpion created by Mr. Kline). Although Natasha was proven innocent, she never truly forgave Foggy for the savagery of his courtroom assault.

Matt broke up with his long-time love, Karen Page, so that he could be with Natasha, and the two of them moved to San Francisco to start a new life together. They fought against menaces such as the Man-Bull, the Blue Talon, Dark Messiah, Angar the Screamer, Ramrod, Terrex, Kraven the Hunter, the Death Stalker, the Owl, El Jaguar, Hydra, and Damon Dran, the Indestructible Man.

Natasha wanted to find a new career for herself beyond the day-to-day adventures she and Daredevil enjoyed, and attempted to become a fashion designer, but her career never took off, and her relationship with Matt became strained.

Natasha left Daredevil briefly to accept an offer of membership in the Avengers after aiding them against Magneto, but she soon left them after determining from a battle against the Lion God that she did not fit into a team environment. Natasha and Matt reconciled for awhile, but after a lengthy romance, Natasha finally broke up with Matt because she felt he did not treat her as an equal in battle.

Still on the West Coast, Natasha joined forces with Ghost Rider (John Blaze) and Angel and Iceman of the X-Men when the gods Hercules and Venus were captured by the armies of Pluto and Ares. After having saved Hercules from a forced marriage, he joined the four heroes to found a new super-hero team, the Champions. Based in Los Angeles and bankrolled by the Angel, the team enjoyed modest success in their adventures. During this time, Natasha became involved with Hercules, but his perspective as an immortal made a long-term relationship seem unimportant. The Champions finally disbanded due to bankruptcy.

Although she and Daredevil had parted ways, the Black Widow was still well-known to Daredevil's enemies as a woman he had loved, and Natasha was captured by Bullseye to be used as bait in an attempt to slay Daredevil. However, Natasha escaped her bonds and aided Daredevil in defeating Bullseye.

Damon Dran, one of Natasha's enemies from her days with Daredevil, captured Ivan in order to lure Natasha to his island, where he set an army of female combat specialists against her. Dran intended to send an agent impersonating the Black Widow to infiltrate the S.H.I.E.L.D. Helicarrier and assassinate Nick Fury, but Natasha defeated his agents, warned Fury, and saved Ivan from Dran before S.H.I.E.L.D. bombed Dran's island.

The Black Widow was once more embroiled in the schemes of the Hand when she attempted to prevent them from stealing the body of their master warrior, Kirigi, from the morgue. The Hand struck Natasha down with poisons that killed her, but Stone of the Chaste restored her to life. She joined forces with Daredevil and Stone against the Hand when they attempted to revive Elektra. Natasha guessed at the time that Elektra had been successfully revived, but kept this from Matt for his own good.

When Natasha learned that Oksana Bolshinko, her old instructor, was in America at the Russian Embassy, she broke into the premises, seeking to apologize to her mentor for abandoning the ballet to become a spy. Oskana replied that Natasha was not the only pupil of hers who had been stolen away by the K.G.B., and that she accepted that espionage was Natasha's true calling.

Russian agents then created a Life Model Decoy (LMD) of Alexi Shostakov, which they used to dupe Natasha into believing her husband was still alive. With threats of terminating Alexi, they coerced her into performing acts of espionage for Russia against the U.S. Upon gaining the desired technology, the Russians revealed the truth and tried to kill the Widow, but with the aid of Ivan, she defeated them and destroyed the LMD.

Natasha later joined forces with Iron Man to prevent the Russian sleeper agent code named "Oktober" from launching nuclear missiles which would have caused World War III. Unknown to Natasha, she herself was Oktober, and succeeded in launching the missiles. Fortunately, Iron Man prevented them from being detonated and aided Natasha in capturing the K.G.B. agent responsible for Natasha's reprogramming. The Widow also worked alongside Daredevil against the murdering telepath known as Rose, who had targeted other telepaths, including several members of S.H.I.E.L.D.'s ESPer unit.

S.H.I.E.L.D. sent the Widow to investigate the Molina, the Russian Mafia, which thrust her into the middle of the decades old struggle

between two seeming immortals, the vigilante Night Raven and the drug smuggling Yi Yang. The Widow assisted in foiling Yi Yang's plot and was witness to Yi Yang crashing her helicopter on top of the Night Raven. No bodies were found in the wreckage.

Natasha eventually returned to the Avengers and assumed the mantle of leadership, usually managing the team's operations from Avengers Mansion while allowing the Black Knight to lead in the field. During this time she also became attracted to Captain America, but wound up sleeping with Tony Stark instead. Her tenure as the Avengers' leader came to a sorrowful end when most of the team was apparently slain battling Onslaught. Unable to rebuild the Avengers roster herself, and threatened with legal action from the Maria Stark Foundation, the Black Widow allowed the Avengers to dissolve.

Considering herself to be the last Avenger, Natasha embarked upon a personal mission to bring down all of the Avengers' former enemies, including the Grey Gargoyle and the Masters of Evil. She again encountered Daredevil at this time, who was concerned with her mental state as he witnessed her obsessive hunting of the Grey Gargoyle. Natasha's presence in Daredevil's life again complicated his relationship with Karen Page, which at that time was still being rebuilt. Although Natasha was willing to rekindle their relationship, she acknowledged that Karen was the woman Matt loved and nobly allowed them their space. Later on, she even offered to assist Karen after she had been framed for murder by Mr. Fear.

Natasha was also the first person to correctly identify the former members of the Masters of Evil who had adopted the guise of the heroic Thunderbolts. She attempted to turn M.A.C.H.-1 and Songbird against Baron Zemo before he could make his move, inspiring them by telling them how Hawkeye, Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch had redeemed their own criminal pasts, but Zemo set his plan into motion before they could reach a decision.

The Avengers finally returned and resumed their operations, but the Black Widow has only occasionally assisted them on missions, still feeling responsible for the team's disbanding. Instead, she has focused on her espionage work. Natasha has accepted several more assignments from S.H.I.E.L.D., such as impersonating the terrorist leader Ebon Flame in order to shut down her organization, Freedom's Light. She also had Iron Man assist her in infiltrating the forced-labor camp for scientists run by Tuatara under the Mandarin's direction.

Natasha came close to learning some truths about her past when she was led into a trap by a man named Vindiktor, who claimed to have a copy of Natasha's mother's diary. This turned out to be false, but as Natasha fought him, he claimed that he was her brother. Unfortunately, Vindiktor died during their battle before Natasha could ascertain if he was telling the truth.

Natasha crossed Daredevil's path again when he attempted to slay Baby Karen, believing the infant to be the Antichrist. Natasha saved the child, but was badly beaten by Daredevil in the ensuing fight. Karen Page ultimately died protecting the child, and Matt went to Natasha to be consoled and to explain his earlier actions to her. Natasha reconciled with Matt, revealing that she still loved him, but noted that they had grown too far apart to become a couple again.

Recently, Natasha became aware of the presence of another Black Widow, a younger woman named Yelena Belova who had also been trained at the Red Room and who was obsessed with being the sole Black Widow. The two Black Widows first encountered each other while attempting to retrieve the Endless Fury bio weapon created in Rhapistan, which exploded violently. Natasha later had herself and Yelena trade appearances through plastic surgery to help teach Yelena that her superiors considered her expendable.

Despite the presence of the other Black Widow, Natasha Romanoff remains one of the world's most accomplished hand-to-hand combatants, and is quite possibly the most skilled espionage agent alive, still in high demand with S.H.I.E.L.D., though the U.S. government recently attempted to turn her over to the government of Bulgaria in exchange for having the Viper released to the United States. Her most recent S.H.I.E.L.D. assignment has been to trace the whereabouts of the Tinkerer during a plot to investigate the financing of super-villains in America by foreign nations, possibly Latveria.

Art by J. Scott Campbell

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Height: 5'7"
Weight: 131 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Red-auburn (formerly dyed black)

POWERS & ABILITIES:

Superhuman Powers: The Black Widow has received a variant of the Super-Soldier Serum which has enabled her to remain in peak physical condition for the past several decades, as well as slowing her aging process to some degree.

PARAPHERNALIA:

Personal Weaponry: Bracelets that contain both the "widow's line" which fires her cable, and the "widow's bite" which releases electric bolts to stun her adversaries with a charge of up to 30,000 volts. Her gloves and boots are equipped with miniature suction cups which enable her to cling to surfaces. Her belt contains plastic explosives.

POWER GRID

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
INTELLIGENCE							
STRENGTH							
SPEED							
DURABILITY							
ENERGY PROJECTION							
FIGHTING SKILLS							

REAL NAME: Lester (last name unrevealed)
KNOWN ALIASES: Benjamin Pondexter, impersonated Daredevil
IDENTITY: Secret
OCCUPATION: Assassin, professional thief; former baseball pitcher, mercenary, extortionist
CITIZENSHIP: United States of America with a criminal record
PLACE OF BIRTH: Unrevealed

MARITAL STATUS: Single
KNOWN RELATIVES: Unnamed father (deceased) and mother
GROUP AFFILIATION: Formerly allied with Eric Slaughter's and the Kingpin's criminal organizations, as well as the Kingpin's rival former agents
EDUCATION: Unrevealed (education beyond high school unlikely)
FIRST APPEARANCE: Daredevil Vol. 1 #131 (1976)

HISTORY: Little is known about the early days of the boy who would grow up to become Bullseye. His mother had been a prostitute. As an eight-year-old, he lived with his alcoholic father in a trailer where he developed an early interest in archery. He drew targets on his trailer home and would practice for hours with his bow and arrow. In the midst of a drunken rage, his father one day told the boy to stop drawing targets on the trailer. After his father passed out, the boy drew a target on the man's head. He put a gun in his father's hand, pointed it at the target, and pulled the trigger.

While Bullseye was in high school, an unspecified event occurred that dramatically changed the teen's life. A talented baseball pitcher in his youth, Bullseye would go on to serve in a military action in Southeast Asia. During this time, he took unusual joy in killing the enemy, once killing an enemy soldier by throwing an empty gun at him. Upon his return to the United States, he decided to devote his career to his finely honed homicidal skills. In his early forays as an assassin he sometimes worked with the wisecracking mercenary known as Deadpool.

When he first emerged in New York City, Bullseye demanded $100,000 to spare the life of millionaire Arthur Hunnicutt. When Hunnicutt refused to pay, Bullseye killed him with a pen. Daredevil confronted Bullseye, and the first of many battles between the two ensued. Bullseye led the hero to a circus at Madison Square Garden where the world could watch their fight on live television. Bullseye intended to prove his deadly abilities so that the next time he made such a threat he would be paid immediately and without question. Daredevil was unable to stop Bullseye there, but later defeated him when Bullseye targeted another millionaire, Henry Foster.

Out of prison, Bullseye was hired by Maxwell Glenn — who was being used by the Purple Man — to kill Matt Murdock and Foggy Nelson. Daredevil, however, foiled Bulleye's plot. Later, Bullseye took over a TV studio and threatened to kill hostages unless Daredevil fought him again on live television. Once again, Daredevil beat Bullseye.

Bullseye employed Eric Slaughter's men to attack Daredevil so he could film Daredevil and study his moves. Bullseye then defeated the Black Widow (Natasha) and held her hostage; Daredevil again defeated him. In prison, Bullseye was diagnosed with a brain tumor. His condition exacerbated his hatred of Daredevil, such that he began seeing everyone as Daredevil, each of whom became a target to be killed. Daredevil fought Bullseye, ultimately saving the assassin by pulling him out of the way of an oncoming train. The hero delivered Bullseye to a hospital where his tumor could be removed.

Nonetheless, Bullseye's hatred for the hero continued to fester and grow. Bullseye escaped and was hired by the Kingpin's former crime syndicate to kill the crimelord before he could turn over files on their activities to the authorities. Instead, the Kingpin convinced Bullseye that he had a future with him and Bullseye switched his allegiance, effectively ending the syndicate's plot. Bullseye was again defeated by Daredevil and imprisoned, and when he escaped he found his

Art by Mike Deodato Jr.

job as the Kingpin's chief assassin had been taken by Elektra. Bullseye tracked down Elektra and slit her throat with a playing card, then impaled her on her own sai, killing her. As Daredevil subsequently fought Bullseye, the two battled on wires suspended high over the street and Bullseye lost his balance. Daredevil caught him, but, unwilling to be saved by the hero once again, Bullseye pulled free and plummeted to the street below. He was paralyzed as a result of his injuries.

Kenji Oyama, Lord Dark Wind, had Bullseye abducted from the hospital and taken to Japan. There, Dark Wind repaired Bullseye's spine with the indestructible metal Adamantium. Dark Wind wanted Bullseye to be a part of his army, but the recovered marksman instead returned to New York City. Still furious over the death of Elektra, Daredevil soundly defeated Bullseye yet again upon his arrival.

When Bullseye next sought to work for the Kingpin, he found himself competing against the mercenary Deadpool for the job. Bullseye's unerring aim proved insufficient when Deadpool healed from his every attack, but Deadpool ended up losing out when he chose to save innocent people over killing Bullseye.

Bullseye worked alongside Bushwacker and an agent of the Hand in the Kingpin's plot to frame Parian Farhoody as a terrorist, a plot foiled by Daredevil. Bullseye also worked for Wilson Fisk in successfully foiling the Red Skull's (Johann Schmidt) attempt to install his agent Crossbones as New York City's new drug kingpin.

When Daredevil returned to New York after a long absence, Bullseye manipulated the nearly amnesiac hero into trading identities with him. Bullseye enjoyed playing the hero, stealing from the rich and giving to the poor, but his own insanity caused him to believe himself to truly be Daredevil. When Murdock regained his memory, he wore Bullseye's outfit, defeated the madman, and reclaimed his own costume.

Bullseye was hired by Rosalie Carbone to assassinate the Punisher and rival crime lord Vito Vaducci. Though he failed, he did kill the vigilante Phalanx and used his armor in a second attempt on the Punisher. That effort was thwarted by the Punisher's enemy Stone Cold, who wished to kill the Punisher himself. Bullseye again targeted the Punisher shortly after the vigilante had survived a prison execution. This time the Punisher shot him though both hands, hoping to ruin his skills and eliminate him as a threat.

Learning that the Hand had succeeded in resurrecting Elektra, Bullseye studied her so that he could kill her again. He led her to the same parking garage where he had originally stabbed her. However, when he became distracted while recounting his youth, Elektra gained the upper hand and beat Bullseye unconscious.

Bullseye joined Deadpool on a mission in Greece, assassinating an unnamed man and was surprised at how well Deadpool was paid. The two crossed paths again when Bulleye was hired to assassinate Mercedes Wilson, a woman with ties to Deadpool's past. Deadpool stopped Bullseye by pulling him into the path of his own returning boomerang.

Bullseye was hired by Mysterio to retrieve a baby and to kill anyone helping to conceal the baby's whereabouts. Bullseye tracked the child to Sister Maggie's church where he proceeded to kill nearly everyone there, including Karen Page, using Daredevil's own billy club. Bullseye escaped with the baby, knowing he had now killed two women Daredevil had loved. Daredevil subsequently rescued the baby.

As the Kingpin began to rebuild his power base after returning to America, he sent Bullseye to kill some of the people involved in his downfall. Bullseye targeted Senator Stewart Ward, but was fought off by Spider-Man. Bullseye was one of a group of assassins sent to try to kill Gambit by the mysterious New Sun, who sought to force the mutant to push his powers to the limit in order to increase them. With Daredevil's secret identity revealed in the tabloids and the Kingpin struggling to regain control of his city again after an assassination attempt, Bullseye offered to finish Daredevil once and for all. Bullseye waited for Daredevil to leave his apartment, reveling in the idea of killing Milla Donovan, another one of Matt Murdock's girlfriends. However, Daredevil returned and threw Bullseye out a window, after which he beat him savagely. Using a sharp rock, Daredevil carved a target into Bullseye's forehead, after which Daredevil had to be stopped from killing him. The assassin was taken to prison once more.

Escaping once again, Bullseye was blackmailed into retrieving the fabled Identity Disc alongside Deadpool, Juggernaut, Sabretooth, Sandman, and the Vulture.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 200 lbs. (including adamantium implants)
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Blond

Distinguishing Features: Large bullseye scar on forehead.

POWERS & ABILITIES:

Superhuman Powers: Bullseye has had strips of adamantium fused to portions of his skeleton, including his spine. This is the hardest metal known to science. It can be cut with a special subatomic particle beam; otherwise, to all intents and purposes, it is virtually indestructible. Hence, Bullseye's adamantium-laced bones are virtually unbreakable. The presence of adamantium does not interfere with his bones' normal functions.

For a brief time, Bullseye could psychically sense the presence of Daredevil within a certain unknown range.

Abilities: Bullseye is an Olympic-level athlete, weight-lifter, and fighter. His innate ability to throw any projectile with great unerring accuracy and deadliness borders on the uncanny. Bullseye knows every pressure point and vulnerable spot on the human body and is able to turn virtually any object into a deadly weapon capable of incapacitating or killing an enemy. His accuracy when wielding an object the size and mass of a baseball is about one hundred feet. He can hurl such objects at around 105 miles per hour.

Weapons: Bullseye has carried guns, knives, whips, shurikens, darts, and sais. He has also carried plastic explosive charges in the compartments of his gloves. The list of common weapons he has turned into weapons includes pencils, golf balls, paper airplanes, paper clips, and even playing cards.

REAL NAME: Matthew Michael Murdock
KNOWN ALIASES: Jack Batlin, DD, Kingpin of Crime, Laurent LeVasseur, the Man without Fear, Michael "Mike" Murdock, Nameless One, Red Man
IDENTITY: Publicly revealed, though unconfirmed
OCCUPATION: Lawyer; former short order cook
CITIZENSHIP: United States of America with no criminal record
PLACE OF BIRTH: New York City
MARITAL STATUS: Married (disputed)
KNOWN RELATIVES: Jonathon Murdock (father, deceased), Margaret Grace Murdock (mother), Milla Donovan (wife, disputed)
GROUP AFFILIATION: Former member of the "Marvel Knights"; former partner of Black Widow (Natasha Romanoff)
EDUCATION: Columbia University (undergraduate), Harvard Law School
FIRST APPEARANCE: Daredevil Vol. 1 #1 (1964)

HISTORY: Matt grew up as the son of "Battling Jack" Murdock, a boxer from Hell's Kitchen. Matt's mother left them when he was quite young, though his father told Matt that she had died. As Jack aged, he was forced to take work from the criminal known as the Fixer, and eventually the Fixer was able to force Jack to work as his enforcer by threatening Matt.

While Matt was a natural athlete and prankster, Jack sought to prevent him from entering his world of violence, instead hoping that Matt could gain an education that would take him away from Hell's Kitchen. He forced Matt to promise that he would study hard and never use his fists. When Jack struck Matt after he had gotten into a fight, Matt realized that rules and laws were needed to stop people from doing bad things. At that moment, Matt made the decision to become a lawyer. Matt's studious nature made him a target of bullies, who nicknamed him Daredevil when he wouldn't fight back. Matt worked out his frustrations at the gym, observed from the shadows by the man known as Stick.

Matt's life was changed forever the day he witnessed an out-of-control truck speeding toward a blind old man crossing the street. Matt pushed the old man out of the way, managing to avoid the truck, but a container fell off the vehicle and broke open, spilling a strange liquid into his eyes. Taken to a hospital, Matt soon learned that he was now blind. He nonetheless became progressively more aware of what occurred around him, to the point that all input to his remaining senses was painful. His pain was soothed by a nun (actually his long lost mother, though he would not realize this until much later), who told him that his enhanced senses were a blessing, though he must keep them secret.

As Matt struggled to adapt to his new way of life, he attempted to resume his training, but found that moves he had previously mastered now seemed impossible. It was at this time that he met Stick, a blind martial-arts master. Under Stick's harsh guidance, Matt came to understand his newly developed senses and blossomed into a formidable fighter.

Years later, Matt attended State University, eventually majoring in pre-Law. Living on campus, he met Foggy Nelson, who would quickly become his best friend. After some research, the two found that the program at Columbia was better suited to their goals, and they transferred there during their Freshman year. At Columbia, Matt met Elektra Natchios with whom he was quickly smitten. Though she initially dismissed him, Matt showed off his acrobatic skills and found in Elektra a kindred spirit. They quickly fell in love and for a year they were euphoric; Matt ignored Stick's orders to stay away from Elektra. Their romance, however, ended when Elektra's father was killed after being taken hostage by terrorists. Unable to deal with her emotions after her father's death, Elektra fled the country, leaving Matt heartbroken.

Matt and Foggy were both accepted into Columbia's Law School. After a few years however, Matt found that the school constantly reminded him of his lost love, and so he transferred again, this time

Art by Alex Maleev

to Harvard Law School; Foggy accompanied him in transferring to Harvard. As the end of their final year approached, Matt and Foggy went to see Jack Murdock in a boxing match. Now more than forty years old, Battling Jack had been ordered by the Fixer to throw the fight. When Jack saw his son in the audience, though, he could not bring himself to lose. Instead, he mustered the strength to win the match, knocking out the savage "Crusher" Creel (a.k.a. Rocky Davis). Later that night, a group of the Fixer's men ambushed Jack in an alley, killing him.

Devastated by the loss of his father, Matt was enraged when the legal system failed to bring the Fixer to justice—possibly due to a combination of an expensive lawyer and a bribed judge. Matt fulfilled his promise to his father by graduating Summa Cum Laude from Law School as class Valedictorian, after which he took it upon himself to seek justice. Making a red and yellow costume out of Battling Jack's boxing robe, Matt took the nickname with which he had been taunted as a child and turned it into a badge of honor. As Daredevil, Matt chased down and savagely beat the members of the Fixer's gang. He pursued the Fixer himself into a subway where the terrified criminal had a heart attack and died. Matt followed the last of the gang into a brothel, pursuing him sans costume; the prostitutes, mistaking his intent, attacked him. Panicking, Matt fought back, inadvertently kicking one of the girls out a window. Believing the girl dead, Matt was overcome with regret. At the same time, Stick decided that Matt was too emotional and undisciplined, and he severed contact with the young man.

Seeking to leave his troubled past behind, Matt joined the Boston firm of Sussman and Castro, but when he was sent back to New York on a job months later, he began to recall many of the fond memories as well. After saving a young orphan girl named Mickie from agents of the Kingpin, Matt realized he had found his second purpose in life. Reuniting with Foggy, they formed the law firm of Nelson & Murdock (he took the second name after losing a coin toss) on 56th Street. He vowed he would serve the legal system as best he could as lawyer Matt Murdock, but those the law could not reach would have to face him as Daredevil.

Foggy hired the young and beautiful Karen Page as their secretary, and both men were instantly smitten with her. Matt was hired as the official lawyer for the Fantastic Four. Daredevil's earliest foes included Electro, the Owl, the Circus of Crime (against whom he assisted Spider-Man, eventually one of his greatest allies), Purple Man, the Matador, and Mr. Fear. Karen, who had become more interested in Daredevil than Matt, suggested to the hero that a red costume would be more appropriate than his current one.

Matt was contacted by Karl Kruger, the Duke of the European nation Lichtenbad, a law school classmate, who invited him to come to his country where specialist Dr. Van Eyck might be able to restore his vision. This proved to be part of Kruger's plot to abduct and control the great thinkers of the world. Dr. Van Eyck sacrificed his life dismantling Kruger's bomb.

Daredevil's activities continued against the likes of the Stilt-Man, the Organizer and the Ani-Men, the Plunderer (during which time he first lost his powers), the Ox, the Masked Marauder, the Gladiator, and Leap-Frog. Daredevil's first identity crisis came about after Spider-Man made claims that Daredevil was Matt Murdock, strengthening the suspicions of both Karen and Foggy. To refute these claims, Matt established the false alias of free spirit Mike Murdock, whom he alleged was his twin brother and Daredevil's true self.

During a subsequent struggle with the Exterminator and the Ani-Men, Daredevil faked his death (and thus the death of Mike Murdock) to eliminate the troubles caused by pretending to exist as three different people. When he next appeared, in conflict with the Jester, Daredevil pretended to be a new hero, taking on the role of his dead predecessor.

Meanwhile, Karen and Matt had fallen in love, but Karen had grown tired of waiting for Matt to propose to her. Matt left the law firm due to his inability to commit to their relationship. In a subsequent struggle with "Starr" Saxon, the criminal learned Daredevil's true identity, which was also learned by the Black Panther. Hoping to eliminate danger to his friends, Matt Murdock faked his own death

Art by David Ross

in an airplane explosion. After the apparent death of Saxon (now Mr. Fear), Daredevil visited the grieving Karen Page and revealed his true identity to her. He then publicly revealed his survival, after which Foggy, now District Attorney, named Matt his special assistant. Matt then proposed to Karen; she agreed to marry him, but only if he would retire as Daredevil. However, he found he could not stand by when innocents were threatened. Karen left him, moving to Los Angeles to get away.

Matt eventually followed Karen to Los Angeles, but he returned to New York to allow her to decide between him and her hopeful film career. Daredevil was soon targeted by the mysterious Mr. Kline, actually a robot from the future who sought to alter Matt Murdock's future as part of a mission to prevent events in his own timeline. Kline hired the Owl to capture Daredevil, but the Owl nearly killed Daredevil instead. The hero was saved by Natasha Romanoff, the Black Widow, leading to an alliance between the two. Matt bumped into Karen and the two were briefly engaged, but they quickly broke up again; Matt then began a relationship with the Black Widow.

Daredevil and the Black Widow moved out to San Francisco where he was recruited by his old classmate Larry Cranston to join the law firm of Broderick, Sloan, & Cranston. However, Cranston had become the new Mr. Fear and learned Daredevil's identity, though he soon fell to his seeming death when the two fought. Shortly thereafter, a reporter pointed out that Murdock and Daredevil had simultaneously arrived in San Francisco; Matt had the Black Panther impersonate Daredevil, thus eliminating the suspicion of Murdock being the masked super hero.

Daredevil and the Widow became involved with Damon Dran, who sought out the Globe of Power from the mysterious government Project: Four which transformed him into the powerful Indestructible Man before meeting defeat. Shortly thereafter the cosmic heroine Moondragon returned to Earth to prepare for war against the mad Eternal of Titan, Thanos. Moondragon allied herself with Matt's senior partner, Kerwin J. Broderick, who had a sterling reputation. Broderick, however, proved to be a megalomaniac, and he managed to usurp Moondragon's Titanian technology, empowering the Dark Messiah and Disciples of Doom, as well as Angar the Screamer, before creating the monstrous earth-creature Terrex into which he infused his own life. When Daredevil and his allies destroyed Terrex, Broderick died as well. Matt eventually realized that a relationship between him and the Widow was not meant to be, and he left both her and the remnants of his law firm, returning to New York.

Matt eventually started dating Heather Glenn, the daughter of industrialist Maxwell Glenn. Though he developed true feelings for her, her airheaded nature proved a hindrance to their relationship. Matt and Foggy opened Storefront Legal Services, though it eventually failed and they reopened Nelson & Murdock. When reporter Ben Urich discovered Daredevil's true identity, the hero initially tried to deny it, but finally admitted the truth, finding relief in having someone to confide in. The two would retain a close relationship over the years.

Daredevil had his first face-to-face encounter with the Kingpin during his return to power after an aborted attempt to retire, and he soon after encountered his former lover Elektra, now a ninja assassin. Around this time, Daredevil lost his radar sense and sought out Stick to help regain it. Daredevil rescued the Kingpin's wife, Vanessa, from the King of the Sewers, using her as leverage to force the Kingpin to remove from power his pawn, newly elected mayor Randolph Cherryh. When Bullseye murdered Elektra, Daredevil sought revenge; Bullseye was crippled in their subsequent struggle. Stick's order, the Chaste, drew Daredevil into another encounter with their rivals, the Hand. During this time Daredevil managed to purify Elektra's spirit, after which the Chaste's Stone resurrected her; Matt would not learn she was alive until much later.

Around this time, Daredevil encountered a series of people from his childhood, including the bully Stymie Schmidt (Matt was forced to step down as the lawyer due to subconsciously sabotaging his case), former friend Johnny Squarejohn (who had become a criminal, but sacrificed his own life to save Daredevil after realizing who was Matt), and Crimson Ash (who had become a fire-obsessed arsonist after a childhood prank led to her mother's dying in flames; Daredevil helped Ash towards redemption).

After a series of struggles with the jungle savage turned would-be crime lord, Micah Synn, Matt broke up with Heather Glenn, who subsequently committed suicide. Matt briefly regained his sight via the virtually omnipotent Beyonder, after which he and Spider-Man finally admitted their secret identities to each other during a struggle against the crazed Sin-Eater, markedly strengthening their friendship. Despite this, Matt was devastated by Heather's suicide, paving the way for one of his darkest periods. Karen Page had become a drug addict, and she sold Daredevil's secret identity for a fix. This information made its way to the Kingpin, who used it to ruin his old enemy. Matt's law license was revoked, his bank accounts were frozen, and his apartment was blown up. Recognizing his responsibility, Matt attacked the Kingpin, who savagely beat him and then attempted to have him killed. Narrowly escaping, Matt was discovered by Sister Maggie, who proved to be his long-lost mother.

Eventually recovering, Matt made his peace with the rehabilitated Karen, and he started a free legal clinic after working briefly as a short order cook. When Matt's clinic thwarted some illegal operations of the Kingpin, the crimelord attempted to crush him anew. The Kingpin sent Typhoid Mary after him; she seduced and then nearly killed him. Though he survived, Daredevil, severely disillusioned, left New York and traveled the country. In the process he encountered the genetically engineered woman Number Nine, the killer robot Ultron, and the demons Blackheart and Mephisto.

Returning to New York, Daredevil rebuilt his life, sending Typhoid Mary to a mental institution, toppling the Kingpin from power, regaining his law license, and re-establishing the firm of Nelson & Murdock, now in World Wide Plaza. However, his happiness was short-lived, as reporter Sara Harrington stole Ben Urich's files and sold Daredevil's identity to a tabloid. In a complex struggle, Matt faked his death by using the body of a demonic doppelganger, Hellspawn, and About Face, a virus which allowed a host to alter their form. Matt then assumed the identity of Jack Batlin (an homage to his father) and pretended to be a new Daredevil as well, clothed in a new, more durable costume patterned in red and gray.

After overcoming his inner demons, Matt rediscovered his purpose in life and emerged from his self-imposed exile. The tabloid accusations having been discredited, Matt joined with Foggy and Rosalind Sharpe, Foggy's mother, to form a new law firm.

After weathering a series of assaults at the hands of Mr. Fear and others, Daredevil was recruited into a complicated plot. S.H.I.E.L.D. agent Harlan secretly convinced Daredevil to go undercover to stop the Kingpin, who had obtained knowledge of his agency's undercover operatives, from selling this information to establish a unified European crime organization network with himself in charge. As part of Operation: Flying Blind, Daredevil underwent physical modification and psychic rewiring that not even a telepath could penetrate him. This radically altered his appearance, restored his vision, and suppressed his memories and personality, replacing them with that of the French artist Laurent LeVasseur. When Harlan was killed in a freak accident, Daredevil was left trapped as LeVasseur, with no one else knowing who or where he was.

Nonetheless, LeVasseur was drawn into the Kingpin's plot, where his memories were inadvertently restored by the Kingpin's agent Synapse. Daredevil foiled the plot, after which the altered appearance and abilities soon faded.

The criminal special effects master Mysterio learned that he was dying of cancer and wanted to go out with a bang. Purchasing knowledge of Daredevil's secret identity from the Kingpin, he embarked on an intricate plot targeting the hero. He faked a test showing that Karen Page had contracted HIV, framed Foggy for murder, and drugged Daredevil to help convince him that a small infant was the Antichrist. The Black Widow stopped Daredevil from killing the child, after which he eventually came to his senses. However, he was unable to stop Mysterio's agent Bullseye from killing Karen. Recovering from this trauma, Daredevil defeated Mysterio and saved the baby, who was later revealed to be the reincarnation of Stick. Matt used Karen's inheritance to rebuild Nelson & Murdock on the grounds of Matt's old brownstone.

Shortly thereafter, Daredevil encountered the deaf adventurer Echo who, while attracted to Murdock, was duped into attacking Daredevil by the Kingpin. Echo discovered it was not Daredevil who had killed her father but actually the Kingpin; in revenge, Echo shot the Kingpin in the face, blinding him. Daredevil then investigated the disappearance of a new Leap-Frog (Lange), eventually discovering that the abusive criminal had been electrocuted by his own son, Timmy, to stop him from killing Daredevil.

Nelson & Murdock faced a conflict of interests when wealthy philanthropist Samuel Griggs attempted to sue Daredevil for causing property damage to his house in a recent struggle. This case brought Daredevil back into contact with a pair of retired foes: the Jester, who pretended to commit a crime so that he could serve Daredevil legal papers, and Manuel Eloganto, formerly the Matador, who was set up as the mastermind behind the accusations against Daredevil. However, the true culprit proved to be the Ringmaster, head of the Circus of Crime, who orchestrated the whole deal just to test his new powers of mesmerism. Spider-Man agreed to impersonate Daredevil to prove to the court that anyone might have impersonated Daredevil, but then actor Terrence Hillman appeared in the courtroom, claiming to have been the original Daredevil and wearing his costume. Hillman confessed to Griggs' false accusations; with Daredevil's identity in question, the case was thrown out. Hillman made a healthy profit selling his "memoirs."

Daredevil teamed with Spider-Man in opposing a plot of the Gang of Four–Copperhead, the new Gladiator, Owl, and Stilt-Man– allegedly to overthrow the Kingpin. However, Copperhead was revealed to be a demonic creature whose true goal was to offer Daredevil's soul to his master in order to regain his own soul. Ultimately, the Owl seemingly sacrificed himself in Daredevil's place, hoping to attain redemption for his years of crime.

Soon after this, up-and-coming criminal Sammy Silke arranged an ambush on the Kingpin that left the crimelord near death. The Kingpin's wife, Vanessa, led FBI agents to take out Silke's allies, but Silke himself escaped death, saving himself by surrendering information to the FBI, including Daredevil's secret identity, which he had learned from Karen in the Kingpin's inner circle. Agent Henry Dobbs sold Daredevil's identity to the Daily Globe, which printed it as a front page story.

Matt publicly and vehemently denied he was Daredevil, even going so far as to sue the Globe's president for libel. Around this time Matt began dating Milla Donovan. Matt failed to vindicate the retired super hero the White Tiger who had been framed for murder, leading to the Tiger's subsequent death. After Daredevil defeated the Owl's plot to take over as the new crime lord of New York, the Kingpin returned, healed from all of his recent injuries and ready to reclaim his empire. With the aid of his "bodyguards" Jessica Jones and Cage, Daredevil defeated Typhoid Mary, who had been sent by Fisk. He also defeated the Kingpin's second assassin, Bullseye, stopping him from making Milla the third girlfriend of Daredevil to meet death at his hands. Driven to frenzy, Daredevil confronted and definitively defeated the Kingpin, leaving him unconscious in front of the patrons of Josie's bar; Matt then declared himself the new Kingpin.

Still reeling from the recent dramatic changes in his life, Matt secretly married Milla, after which he cemented his role as the Kingpin, fighting off an assassination attempt by the Japanese mobsters, the Yakuza. However, Milla left Matt after Ben Urich told her that Matt had suffered a mental breakdown due to events since Karen Page's death, and that his marriage to her was a result of that breakdown.

Recently, Daredevil has assisted the Black Widow when the U.S. government sought to turn her over to another country in exchange for the Viper (Madame Hydra).Though the Widow sought to rekindle their relationship, Daredevil retained his feelings for her and was reluctant to give up their relationship. In addition, other criminals, such as Jigsaw, mistook Daredevil's defeat of the Kingpin as his becoming the new crimelord. Murdock continues to struggle to cope with his public identity, the consequences of toppling the Kingpin, and his desire to find happiness and love in his tumultous life.

Art by Tim Sale

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 200 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Red

Distinguishing Features: Matt Murdock is blind.

POWERS & ABILITIES:

Superhuman Powers: Daredevil has four superhuman senses. His sense of touch is so acute that he can detect the faint impression of ink on a printed page, allowing him to read by touch. The rest of his skin is equally sensitive, allowing him by concentration to detect minute temperature changes and pressure changes in the atmosphere around him. Even with his senses of smell and hearing impaired, he can detect the presence of a person standing several feet away from him simply by sensing his or her body heat and disturbance of air.

Daredevil's sense of smell is so acute that he can distinguish between identical twins at twenty feet by minute differences in smell. He has developed an incredible concentration and thirty years of practice to remember smells well enough to identify any person he has spent at least five minutes with by smell alone, no matter how he or she might try to disguise or change her scent. His powers of concentration are such that he can focus on a single person's scent and follow it through a crowd of people at a distance of fifty feet.

Daredevil's sense of hearing enables him to detect an acoustic change of 1 decibel at a sound level of 2 decibels (whereas the lowest threshold for hearing is 20 decibels). He can hear a person's heartbeat at a distance of over twenty feet, people whispering on the other side of a standard soundproofed wall. Daredevil can tell whether a person is lying in his testimony (he can be fooled by a few people able to control their own heartbeat), and can identify people by the specific patterns of their heartbeats. Through practice, Daredevil is able to adjust his hearing acuity, mentally blocking out specific sounds like his own breathing and heartbeat, all ambient sounds to a normal human level of perception, or all sounds but a particular sound he is concentrating on. He can be taken by surprise in distress by a familiar sound as an ordinary human would. Also, in a large size, crowds of people create too many conflicting impressions for him to easily distinguish.

Daredevil's sense of taste enables him to detect the number of grains of salt on a pretzel. His ability to remember tastes enables him to determine every ingredient of a food or drink he tastes, as long as there are at least ten milligrams of that substance present.

Daredevil can also sense the presence and arrangement of objects about himself. Through the use of his radar sense, Daredevil's "radar sense" is actually his brain's generation and reception of a certain type of electromagnetic radiation. The signal emanates from sending receptors of his brain, which travels outward, bounces off objects around him and returns to receptors of his brain. Current theory is that this sense functions more closely to echolocation in which Daredevil hears the faint echoes of sounds as they bounce off nearby objects. His sense may operate by a combination of these techniques or by a completely unique sense. His "radar sense" varies from the "proximity sense" of Stick and the Chaste which is more of a mystical discipline.

Daredevil's close range three-dimensional human vision resolution is not quite fine, probably on the order of several feet at a distance of one hundred feet. By repositioning his head and using his other senses, Daredevil is able to resolve the image of an ordinary flagpole (three-inch cylinder) at a distance of over 80 feet.

Daredevil possesses control of adrenaline, enabling him to control his autonomic functions such as breathing and blood flow to a certain degree. He also can communicate with those of similar training, such as the Chaste.

Abilities: Daredevil is an expert level gymnast, possessing the acrobatic skills of a circus performer, the fighting skills of a heavyweight prizefighter, as well as superhuman speed, endurance, and reflexes. His fighting style is unique, incorporating movements and blows from many disciplines, including boxing, Ninjitsu, karate, and various other martial arts.

Matt Murdock is a highly skilled attorney, with extensive knowledge of the American legal system.

PARAPHERNALIA:

Weapons: Daredevil carries a Billy Club; as Matt Murdock, he carries it openly as a blind man's cane. The cane separates into two parts. The lower section contains a sword, used as a formidable fighting weapon. Daredevil formerly used the top section as a grappling hook which contained a rope.

Costume: Daredevil wears a red body suit (Lycra) specially woven with steel fibers, and red boots and gloves. For a time, he briefly wore a costume composed of biomimetic materials, woven in the pattern of orb-weaver spiders with a bricklike crystal pattern in abalone shell and twisted wire strands. This costume was gray and black and protected him from both sharp and blunt trauma.

Weaknesses: Daredevil's superhuman senses render him extremely vulnerable to extreme sound, odors, and light which can be incapacitating to him. He is unable to discern pictures or video images, and he can only guess at colors based on the amount of heat they are absorbing or reflecting.

MILLA DONOVAN

REAL NAME: Milla Donovan
KNOWN ALIASES: None
IDENTITY: Publicly known
OCCUPATION: Housing employee, exact position unrevealed
CITIZENSHIP: United States citizen with no criminal record
PLACE OF BIRTH: Presumably Hell's Kitchen, New York City, NY

MARITAL STATUS: Married, separated
KNOWN RELATIVES: Matt Murdock (a.k.a. Daredevil, husband, disputed)
GROUP AFFILIATION: Hell's Kitchen Housing Commission
EDUCATION: College degree
FIRST APPEARANCE: Daredevil Vol. 2 #41 (2003)

HISTORY: A blind employee of the Hell's Kitchen Housing Commission, Milla Donovan first met Daredevil when she was nearly run down by a truck fleeing the police. The hero pushed her out of the way, saving her life. Unable to get Daredevil out of her mind following the encounter, she learned of reports that Daredevil was actually attorney Matt Murdock and, encouraged by her friend and co-worker Lori, she visited Murdock's law firm, where, based on Murdock's voice, she confirmed to herself that the two men were one and the same. Intrigued by Milla, Matt began dating her, only for their first date to be disrupted by FBI investigations into a murder committed by the Owl, whom Daredevil soon defeated. Although she and Lori admired his heroism, Milla soon learned the dangers of associating with Matt, as she was present when Typhoid attacked the hero and was later nearly killed by Bullseye. Nevertheless, she persevered in the relationship, and Matt respected her courage and commitment.

Months later, following Daredevil's declaration of himself as "Kingpin" of Hell's Kitchen, Matt and Milla secretly married. Some time after this, when members of the Japanese crime family known as the Yakuza attacked Matt, he sent Milla to contact reporter Ben Urich, hoping that he could ensure her safety. When Matt went missing after the battle, Milla appealed to Ben to help find him. Ben located Matt at a secret hospital facility for super-heroes, where he confronted Matt with the idea that the death of Karen Page had driven Matt to a nervous breakdown, resulting in much of his atypical behavior, including his marriage to Milla. Disturbed by the notion, Milla came to agree with Ben's analysis and, unable to cope with these emotions, ultimately left Matt. Her current activities are unrevealed.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Height: 5' 8"
Weight: 130 lbs.
Eyes: White
Hair: Black

POWERS & ABILITIES:

Strength Level: Milla Donovan possesses the normal human strength of a woman of her age, height, and build who engages in moderate regular exercise.

Superhuman Powers: None

Limitations: Milla Donovan has been blind since birth.

POWER GRID

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
INTELLIGENCE							
STRENGTH							
SPEED							
DURABILITY							
ENERGY PROJECTION							
FIGHTING SKILLS							

Art by Alex Maleev

HISTORY: Deserted by her mother at an early age, Maya Lopez was diagnosed as learning disabled but, after she demonstrated her ability to duplicate musical performances, her teachers realized that she was deaf. When she was nine, Maya's father, a Cheyenne gangster, was killed by his partner in crime, the Kingpin, who then became her guardian. Fisk, hoping to one day use her talents, subtly manipulated her into learning fighting skills as well as the performance arts, and she excelled in both. She remained dedicated to Fisk as her father figure.

At twenty-nine, the Kingpin sent her to visit attorney Matt Murdock, who was investigating Fisk's illegal activities; believing Fisk above reproach, Maya sought to defend his reputation. Murdock's super-senses detected Maya's sincerity, and the two became attracted to one another. Fisk subsequently claimed that it was Daredevil who had murdered her father. Vowing revenge, Maya studied a videotaped battle between Daredevil and Bullseye, training until she could duplicate both men's moves. Following a date with Murdock, Maya attacked Daredevil. After a prolonged battle, Maya gained the advantage and was prepared to shoot Daredevil, but the presence of several children stayed her hand.

Later, when the Kingpin was erroneously reported dead, Maya presumed Daredevil responsible and again attacked him. However, during the course of their battle, she recognized a wound on Daredevil's face which corresponded with one on Murdock. Recognizing that Daredevil was innocent, she realized Fisk had killed her father. Enraged, she confronted Fisk and shot him point blank in the face. Greatly disturbed, Maya fled the US and traveled the world, hoping to restructure her psyche.

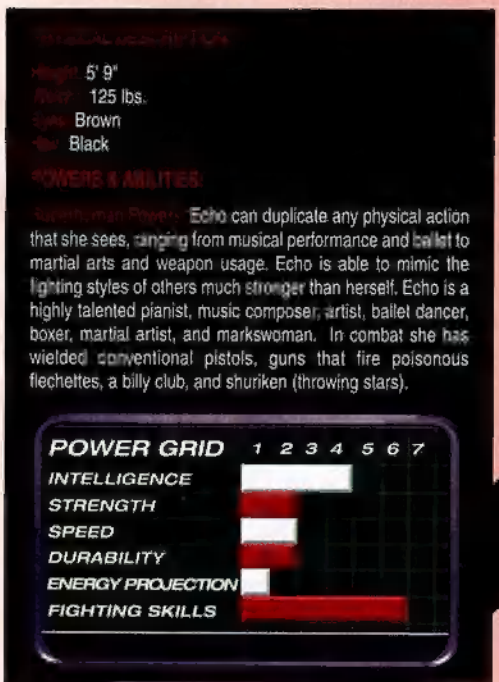
Maya subsequently returned to New York City, only to learn Daredevil was now involved with someone else. A confrontation with the recovered Kingpin proved equally unsatisfying, so she visited the Chief, a wise friend of her father's and underwent a vision quest in hope of calming her troubled spirit, and an encounter with the mutant Wolverine helped her make peace with her past. Maya has since returned to performance art and again lives in New York.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

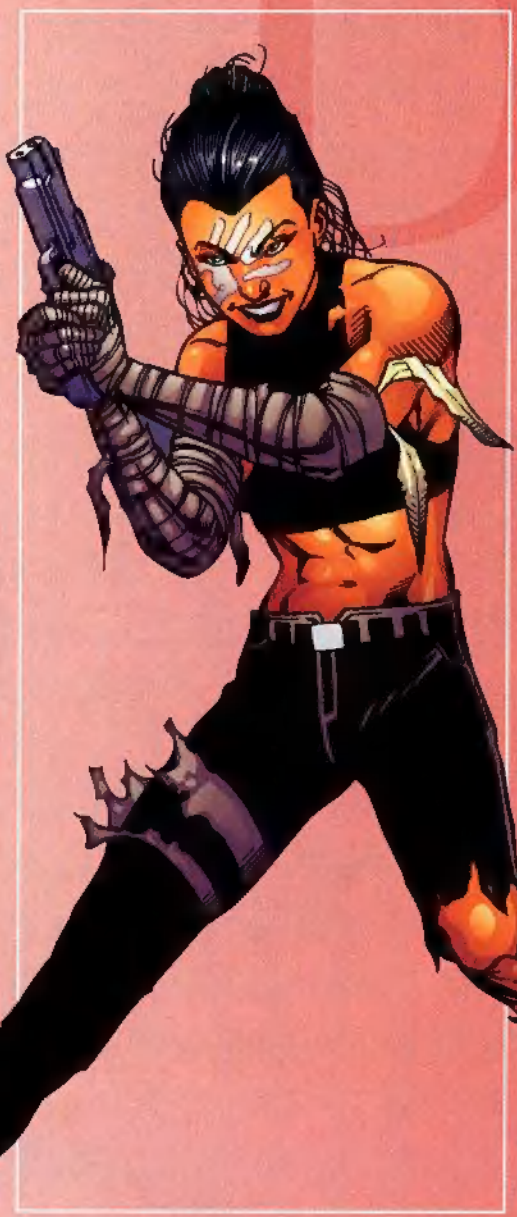
Height: 5' 9"
Weight: 125 lbs.
Eyes: Brown
Hair: Black

POWERS & ABILITIES

Superhuman Powers: Echo can duplicate any physical action that she sees, ranging from musical performance and ballet to martial arts and weapon usage. Echo is able to mimic the fighting styles of others much stronger than herself. Echo is a highly talented pianist, music composer, artist, ballet dancer, boxer, martial artist, and markswoman. In combat she has wielded conventional pistols, guns that fire poisonous flechettes, a billy club, and shuriken (throwing stars).



REAL NAME: Maya Lopez
KNOWN ALIASES: Crazy Horse
IDENTITY: Secret
OCCUPATION: Performance artist
CITIZENSHIP: U.S. citizen with no criminal record
PLACE OF BIRTH: Unrevealed
MARITAL STATUS: Single
KNOWN RELATIVES: William "Crazy Horse" Lincoln (father, deceased); Ms. Lopez (mother, status unrevealed)
GROUP AFFILIATION: Former operative of the Kingpin
EDUCATION: Unrevealed, presumed college degree
FIRST APPEARANCE: Daredevil Vol. 2 #9 (1999)



Art by David Ross

ELEKTRA

REAL NAME: Elektra Natchios
KNOWN ALIASES: Little Amber, Epsilon, Perfect Death; impersonated Chastity McBryde and Sandy Newton; numerous aliases throughout mercenary career
IDENTITY: Existence unknown to the public at large
OCCUPATION: Mercenary assassin; former student and dancer
CITIZENSHIP: Expatriated Greek citizen
PLACE OF BIRTH: An unspecified island near the Aegean Sea
MARITAL STATUS: Single
KNOWN RELATIVES: Hugo Kostas Natchios (father, deceased), Christina (mother, deceased), Orestez (brother), Demetrios (paternal uncle), Alexia (paternal aunt by marriage)
GROUP AFFILIATION: Former member of the Hand; former apprentice of the Chaste, led own order
EDUCATION: Studied political science at Columbia University, New York City
FIRST APPEARANCE: Daredevil Vol. 1 #168 (1981)

HISTORY: Elektra's father, Hugo, was a young Greek ambassador, embarrassed by his wife's affection towards other men. When Christina became pregnant, both Hugo and his son, Orestez, a young man at the time, suspected that Hugo was not the father. Infuriated, Orestez hired men to kill Christina. Shortly before noon, August 13th, a helicopter flew over the vacationing Hugo and Christina, firing down upon them. Though Christina was the target of the attack, Hugo was shot as well. Hugo recovered, but Christina only survived long enough to give birth to her daughter. After medical tests proved that he was the father after all, Hugo accepted the baby, naming her Elektra. Guilt over injuring his father drove Orestez away from his family.

Elektra attended parochial school where, despite her high intelligence, she received poor grades. She spent much time under psychiatric evaluation. At the age of nine, her dog Agamemnon was slain by men who had planned to assault her. Elektra was saved by Orestez, now a grown man who had developed into a skilled martial artist. The very next day, Elektra began martial arts training under a Japanese sensei, achieving a black belt by age twelve.

While living in the United States with her father, she attended Columbia University, carefully watched over by bodyguards Athos and Stavros. At the age of nineteen she met Matt Murdock; the two found they shared a thirst for danger and adventure. Because of her father's overprotective nature, Elektra and Matt were forced to meet in secret, their clandestine meetings only serving to fuel their passions. Elektra was plagued by dark voices that spurred her to violence, which she was able to contain only by taking out her impulses on criminals that she felt deserved punishment.

A year later, Elektra and her father were held hostage in a building on campus. A disguised Matt defeated the terrorists with Elektra's help, but a police officer outside the building mistook Hugo Natchios for one of the terrorists and shot him dead. Unable to bear the pain of the loss, and fearing that she would be overwhelmed by her own dark voices, Elektra fled, leaving behind a heartbroken Matt. Before she left the United States, she tracked down and confronted the man who had arranged the assault that led to her father's death. Despite her skills, Elektra was defeated by the man and his bodyguard, but she was saved by a sai hurled from the shadows. Elektra believed that the sai was thrown by Stick, who had appeared and advised her in the past, but it was actually hurled by an agent of the Hand. Impressed by the weapon, Elektra decided to make it her own.

Searching for meaning in her life, Elektra made her way to Japan. Her sensei knew even his best efforts could not help Elektra, so he suggested she seek out the Chaste, a clan of warriors led by Stick. Elektra excelled at all disciplines and hoped to become the eighth member of the order. However, Stick recognized the pain and hatred that still burned within her. To preserve the group's purity, he forced Elektra to leave the Chaste.

Determined to prove her worthiness, Elektra planned to infiltrate the Hand, the ninja cult that had been at war with the Chaste for many years, and defeat them from within. The Hand proposed a test, tricking Elektra into killing her former sensei. Elektra's already fragile psyche was shattered. The Hand took advantage of her state of mind and trained her to become one of their greatest warriors. Still, they were unable to completely turn her to their ways. Elektra broke free of their control and fled Japan, but she was forever tainted by the darkness of the Hand.

Art by Greg Horn

A comprehensive guide to the Daredevil Universe, featuring...

Black Widow
Bullseye
Daredevil
Milla Donovan
Echo
Elektra
Vanessa Fisk
Gladiator
Hand
Jessica Jones
Kingpin
Mr. Fear
Foggy Nelson
Owl
Karen Page
Purple Man
Sammy Silke
Stick
Stilt-Man
Turk
Typhoid
Ben Urich

DIRECT EDITION
00111
7 59606 05612 8
$3.99 US $5.75 CAN
MARVEL PSR